

AIRGRAM

762.00/11-96v

EXCISE
 FOR USE ONLY

RM/R	REP	AF
1		
ARA	EUR	FE
NEA	CU	INR
E	P	IO
4	1	2
L	FBO	
1		
BTF	S/P	(SIS)
5	1	(27)
AGR	COM	PRB
INT	LAB	TAR
TR	XMB	AIR
ARMY	CIA	NAVY
5	16	5
OSD	USA	NSA
12	8	3
		ML
		2

A-339

CONFIDENTIAL

HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INFO : BORN, PARIS, LONDON, MOSCOW, USAREUR

FROM : USBER BERLIN

DATE: Nov 9, 1962

SUBJECT: Recent Expressed Soviet Views on Berlin

REF :

PARIS also for USRO, Stoessel and McGuire; USAREUR for POLAD

Margarete SPITZER, a West Berliner and stringer for the London Observer and London Times, told the Public Affairs Officer that she and other West Berlin and West German correspondents had talked on October 29 and 30 with USSR First Secretary Aleksandr Yakovlevich BOGOMOLOV and other Soviet Embassy people and Soviet correspondents from East Berlin. During those conversations the Soviets expressed the following views on the Berlin question:

1. They professed to believe the USSR has won a victory in Cuba. It is more important in the long run, they pointed out, that the United States commit itself to not invading Cuba and that Soviet presence in Cuba be assured, than that Soviet rocket bases remain on the island.

2. They said what is required now is negotiations in which "reason will win the Western Powers over to the Soviet position." Specifically they argued for a NATO-Warsaw Pact non-aggression agreement, not excluding the possibility of a partial withdrawal of NATO troops from West Germany and Soviet troops from East Germany. Connected with this, they said, should be the withdrawal of British, French and American troops from West Berlin and their replacement by neutral troops under a UN arrangement, with Swedes and Austrians specifically mentioned. According to the Soviets, a strong and carefully written US-USSR agreement then could be worked out stating, among other things, that the US would consider any attack on West Berlin as an attack upon itself.

3. They claimed to foresee a long period of general negotiations ahead and appeared to be uneasy about any haste in the Berlin question.

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FORM DS-323

 Drafted by: USIS: ARStull
 POL: LTStull/cgw - 11/6/62

 Contents and Classification Approved by:
 ARDay

 Clearances: EAS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MB

 REVIEWED BY: ARStull DATE: 3/4/83
 () RELEASE () DECLASSIFY
 () EXTENDED () DECLASSIFY IN PART
 () DENY () Non-responsive info.
 FOI, EO or PA exemptions

 TS authority to: OADR
 () CLASSIFY AS
 () DOWNGRADE TS to () G-OADR

ARStull 01/04/80

when one reporter asked whether they thought an agreement on Berlin could be reached in six months, Bogomolov answered, "Do you think that it can be reached by the end of 1963?" The Soviets indicated that a separate peace treaty was the last step to be taken (following successful negotiations) and not something for the immediate future.

4. When asked about Zorin's statement at the UN as reported by the DPA wire service (that the USSR will not allow itself to be trapped into military initiatives in Berlin), the Soviets said that this statement was correct and a valid interpretation of Soviet government policy.

Bogomolov's comments on this occasion contrasted sharply with his reticence a few days earlier on October 26 when he told Hans Jakub STEHLE, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung Berlin correspondent, that Cuba was a far too sensitive topic for him to offer even a personal opinion.

Comment: The Soviet line is notable for the relaxed attitude on timing of a German peace treaty and the related stress on protracted negotiations. Otherwise, it appears to combine face-saving concerning Cuba with a hodgepodge of previous Soviet proposals for a Berlin settlement.

For the Assistant Chief of Mission:



Arthur R. Day
Chief, Political Affairs Section

EXCISED COPY FOLLOWS

AIRGRAM

762.00/11-962

EXCISE

6(1)

HANDLING INDICATOR

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ANALYSIS & DISTRIBUTION

DATE: Nov 9, 1962

A-339...
TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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FORM 4-62 DS-223

Drafted by: USIS:Kurenski
CH POL:LTStull/cv 11/6/62

Cleared by: EAST 4/11/62

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MB
REVIEWED BY: [Signature]
DATE: 3/4/68
() RELEASE () DECLASSIFY
(X) EXCISE (X) DECLASSIFY IN PART
() DENY () Non-responsive info.
FOI, EO or PA exemptions
TS authority to: OADR
() CLASSIFY AS
() DOWNGRADE TO () () () ()

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